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TAMESIDE SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 2022

1. FUTURE SCHOOL PLACES REQUIREMENTS IN TAMESIDE

Context

- 1.1 All local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand in the area. These may be school places available at provision maintained by the local authority, academies, or other non-maintained schools. In order to carry out this statutory duty, Councils need to carry out school place planning and forecasting.
- 1.2 Planning for fluctuations in demand for school places is an important function which needs to be carried out at a local level and will differ depending on the phase of learning, for example, pupils will travel further to secondary schools than primary schools. The compact geography of the borough and the mix of types of school eg single sex means that place planning happens at a level higher than wards or towns.
- 1.3 School place planning is a complex process, that takes account a range of factors including the number of births in the borough, in year movement and cohort survival rates as well as parental preference and planned housing development. With rapid shifts in economic conditions for families and changing patterns of migration, planning for basic need for school places requires a proactive approach to best respond to both short and medium-term demand for places.

Strategic Planning

- 1.4 Planning school places is a dynamic process. Tameside Council has taken the view that, in the current situation of fluctuating demand for places, our strategy needs to be refreshed on a regular basis to be responsive to fluid and contemporaneous data. In order to do this, the Council's Executive Cabinet receives recommendations on an annual basis through the annual determination of admission arrangements process. The annual report highlights current issues and potential solutions in advance of the annual consultation on admission arrangements that includes consultation on changes to published admission numbers

Factors affecting demand

- 1.5 The main factors affecting demand for school places are birth rates, in year movements within and without the borough, travel to learn patterns of pupils into schools in other local authorities, and equally pupils travelling to schools in Tameside from other boroughs, housing developments and availability of social housing and parental preference. Many of these are subject to quite short-term uncertainty and are difficult to plan for on a long-term basis.
- 1.6 In July 2021, the Department for Education published its latest national projections for the number of pupils in schools. The table below gives the headline figures for primary and secondary age children. Similar to the pattern in Tameside, the overall trend is down for primary age pupils but up for secondary age pupils.

	Actual population in 2020	Projection for 2026
Primary age children	4,647,225	4,345,952
Secondary age children	3,003,233	3,215,886
	Source	DfE national pupil projections 2021

Factors affecting supply

- 1.7 The main factors affecting the supply of school places are the availability of capital funding, land and premises. Expansion of existing schools is affected by the capacity of premises, the size of sites as well as wider considerations of their location. Establishing any new schools requires a longer lead in time through the competition framework. Equally, additional places

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can be introduced into the system through expansion proposals by governing bodies or admission authorities that increase admission numbers into a school and the establishment of Free Schools that receive approval by central government.

Challenges affecting planning to meet demand

- 1.8 The main issues that can affect the Council's strategic plans are late applications and in-year admissions that complicate planning both at school and at local authority level. Previously well-understood trends are changing and are proving difficult to predict, including short term tenancies, mobile populations and other changes in the housing market. Patterns of parental preference are also difficult to predict.

Tameside track record

- 1.9 The Council has been proactive in tackling the issue of rising births over recent years. The Published Admission Number (PAN) has been increased at many primary and secondary schools and overall by almost 18% in primary and 14% in secondary schools as illustrated in the tables below.

Tameside primary school places – total places for reception entry												
09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
2734	2802	2907	2917	3085	3125	3165	3195	3175	3175	3160	3145	3140

Tameside secondary school places - total places for Year 7 entry												
09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
2826	2796	2826	2832	2837	2842	2806	2806	2818	3035	3080	3172	3239

- 1.10 By being proactive, the Council has been able to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places. This has been done whilst also managing to maintain high levels of meeting parental preference and usually, at a higher level than the national average.

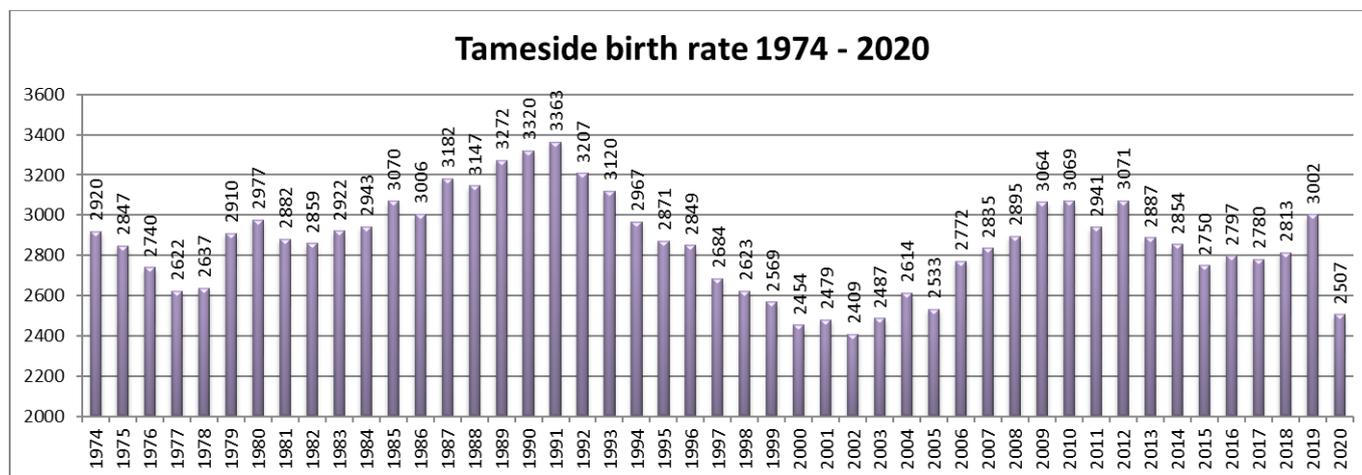
Preference allocations on national offer day	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	SECONDARY SCHOOLS									
	T'side	Eng	T'side	Eng	T'side	Eng	T'side	Eng	T'side	Eng
% 1st pref	82.2%	83.5%	84.6%	82.1%	83.9%	80.9%	85.6%	82.2%	85.4%	81.1%
% any pref	94.9%	96.1%	96.6%	95.5%	95.8%	94.9%	96.9%	95.6%	95.8%	95.5%
PRIMARY SCHOOLS										
% 1st pref	90.9%	90.0%	93.5%	91.0%	91.5%	90.6%	91.5%	90.2%	94.3%	91.8%
% any pref	97.5%	97.7%	98.6%	98.1%	97.8%	98.0%	97.9%	97.8%	98.5%	98.5%

2. CURRENT DEMAND

- 2.1 In common with many areas of the country, Tameside experienced a surge in births between 2002 and 2012. The birth rate rose from a low of 2,409 in 2002 to a high of 3,071 in 2010, a 27% increase. The birth rate fell by 9% from 2010 to 2018 with a blip increase in 2019 but fell significantly in 2020 to 2507 births.
- 2.2 As can be seen from the graph below, over the last 46 years, the birth rate in the borough has followed a distinct cycle which appears to repeat over a 25 year period. The peak of births in the borough was reached in 1991 when 3,363 babies were born. The most recent

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peak was in 2012 with 3,071 babies born. There followed a relatively stable seven year period. Birth rates form the basis for any school place planning model. Therefore, any new proposals to increase the number of school places need to be a mix of permanent and temporary as these will become surplus in years to come.



- 2.3 A number of factors are used to predict how many year 7 places will be needed in the borough and to some extent planning to meet secondary needs is easier as pupils are in primary schools already. These include birth rates, the number of pupils in primary schools, in year pupil movement and planned housing developments. These factors give a range within which demand for school places need to be assessed. For many years, the Council has used an average of Year 6 numbers plus 5% to give an indication of demand; however, this increased to 6% for several years but has now fallen back to 4%.

In year transfers

- 2.4 The School Admissions Team in the Council deal with approximately 3,000 transfer movements every year. Around 2,000 are primary school movements and 1,000 are secondary. This is in common with most areas of the country where house moves are the commonest reason for moving schools. The tables below shows pupil numbers in each year group from 2004 onwards. As can be seen the number of children in Tameside primary schools reached a peak in 2018/19 but is now decreasing. Similarly, the overall number of children in secondary schools is increasing steadily as the numbers feed through from primary schools.

January census numbers – primary schools								
	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	TOTAL
2004/05	2460	2562	2593	2618	2712	2712	2745	18402
2005/06	2397	2472	2550	2591	2615	2706	2718	18049
2006/07	2406	2396	2463	2553	2598	2611	2695	17722
2007/08	2453	2384	2429	2457	2535	2619	2617	17494
2008/09	2586	2463	2400	2427	2470	2536	2617	17499
2009/10	2549	2589	2499	2411	2404	2461	2531	17444
2010/11	2681	2549	2600	2453	2414	2397	2473	17567
2011/12	2760	2690	2574	2581	2467	2420	2369	17861
2012/13	2908	2770	2701	2544	2544	2430	2394	18291
2013/14	2926	2953	2773	2699	2567	2581	2465	18964
2014/15	3104	2929	2931	2761	2692	2597	2580	19594
2015/16	3002	3128	2929	2942	2790	2725	2606	20122
2016/17	3066	3029	3127	2936	2951	2789	2727	20625

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2017/18	2998	3089	3009	3118	2917	2926	2779	20836
2018/19	2873	3012	3094	3027	3110	2923	2938	20977
2019/20	2878	2894	2993	3088	3024	3127	2918	20922
2020/21	2787	2874	2896	2982	3073	3008	3119	20739

- 2.5 The table below shows the percentage change in numbers due to in year transfers from one year to the next in Tameside. This shows that the numbers in each year group remain relatively stable as they progress through the year groups.

Change in numbers year to year – primary schools									
	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Overall R to Y6	Overall % change
2004/05									
2005/06		12	-12	-2	-3	-6	6		
2006/07		-1	-9	3	7	-4	-11		
2007/08		-22	33	-6	-18	21	6		
2008/09		10	16	-2	13	1	-2		
2009/10		3	36	11	-23	-9	-5		
2010/11		0	11	-46	3	-7	12	13	0.53%
2011/12		9	25	-19	14	6	-28	-28	-1.18%
2012/13		10	11	-30	-37	-37	-26	-12	-0.50%
2013/14		45	3	-2	23	37	35	12	0.49%
2014/15		3	-22	-12	-7	30	-1	-6	-0.23%
2015/16		24	0	11	29	33	9	57	2.19%
2016/17		27	-1	7	9	-1	2	46	1.69%
2017/18		23	-20	-9	-19	-25	-10	19	0.68%
2018/19		14	5	18	-8	6	12	30	1.02%
2019/20		21	-19	-6	-3	17	-5	-8	-0.27%
2020/21		-4	2	-11	-15	-16	-8	15	0.48%

- 2.6 For secondary schools, the overall pupils numbers are as follows:

January census numbers – secondary schools							
	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	TOTAL
2004/05	2746	2991	3213	3213	3123	2996	15536
2005/06	2720	2918	2984	3202	3185	3061	15350
2006/07	2695	2858	2915	2983	3177	3159	15092
2007/08	2617	2874	2851	2895	2956	3150	14726
2008/09	2617	2712	2861	2851	2901	2942	14267
2009/10	2531	2714	2705	2829	2830	2876	13954
2010/11	2473	2582	2712	2713	2813	2819	13639
2011/12	2369	2519	2582	2710	2721	2809	13341
2012/13	2394	2438	2504	2581	2697	2683	12903
2013/14	2465	2538	2445	2528	2580	2686	12777
2014/15	2580	2538	2553	2431	2513	2551	12586
2015/16	2606	2677	2552	2548	2429	2475	12681
2016/17	2727	2694	2701	2549	2517	2411	12872
2017/18	2779	2791	2680	2674	2506	2496	13147

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2018/19	2938	2870	2778	2648	2646	2474	13416
2019/20	2918	2957	2888	2747	2620	2640	13852
2020/21	3119	2960	2949	2889	2724	2604	14126

- 2.7 The table below shows the percentage change in numbers due to in year transfers from one year to the next in secondary schools in Tameside. This shows that the numbers in each year group decrease as they progress through the year groups.

Change in numbers year to year - secondary							
	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Overall Year 7-11	Overall % change
2004/05							
2005/06	172	-7	-11	-28	-62		
2006/07	138	-3	-1	-25	-26		
2007/08	179	-7	-20	-27	-27		
2008/09	95	-13	0	6	-14	-49	-1.7%
2009/10	97	-7	-32	-21	-25	-42	-1.5%
2010/11	51	-2	8	-16	-11	-39	-1.4%
2011/12	46	0	-2	8	-4	-65	-2.3%
2012/13	69	-15	-1	-13	-38	-29	-1.1%
2013/14	144	7	24	-1	-11	-28	-1.0%
2014/15	73	15	-14	-15	-29	-31	-1.2%
2015/16	97	14	-5	-2	-38	-44	-1.8%
2016/17	88	24	-3	-31	-18	-27	-1.1%
2017/18	64	-14	-27	-43	-21	-42	-1.7%
2018/19	91	-13	-32	-28	-32	-64	-2.6%
2019/20	19	18	-31	-28	-6	-37	-1.4%
2020/21	42	-8	1	-23	-16	-90	-3.5%

- 2.8 The data in the tables shows that whilst there might be a large number of transfers in any given year, the overall change in pupil numbers is relatively small.

Cohort survival rate

- 2.9 When taken together, all of the above factors give a cohort survival rate. This is the ratio of the relationship of number of pupils from one point in time to another, for example, the birth rate number compared to the number of pupils allocated a place in Reception or the number of pupils in Year 6 in a Tameside school compared to the number of pupils allocated a place in Year 7.
- 2.10 In order to effectively plan for changes to school places in secondary schools, which starts two years in advance of entry into Year 7, a cohort survival rate based on year 4 numbers is also calculated. A five year rolling average of this ratio is the method used in Tameside to predict the number of places needed in any particular intake year.
- 2.11 Planning for primary school places is somewhat harder than secondary school place planning as the only constant source of data are the ward level birth rate information. A five year rolling average of birth rates to primary intake is calculated but unlike secondary schools where seven years of data are available from primary schools, only two years of data are available prior to planning commencing.

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2.12 The cohort survival rate for Year 7 is shown in the table below:

YEAR 7 ACTUALS							
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total on time applications	2797	2821	2949	3008	3148	3173	3396
Tameside schools 1st preferences inc SEN	2618	2605	2739	2613	2948	2982	3396
Tameside resident out of borough 1st prefs	179	216	244	203	200	191	168
Out of borough 1st prefs for Tameside schools	334	374	327	340	304	318	309
Total allocated - Sept	2976	2953	3069	3125	3247	3260	3466
Total allocated for Tameside schools - Sept	2758	2761	2824	2906	3001	3004	3190
Total allocated to out of borough and independent	218	192	201	174	237	170	190
Primary school Year 6	2581	2606	2727	2779	2938	2918	3119
Cohort survival rate (Y6 - Y7)	106.9%	105.9%	103.6%	104.6%	102.1%	102.9%	102.3%
Primary school Year 4	2544	2567	2692	2790	2951	2917	3110
Cohort survival rate (Y4 - Y7)	108.4%	107.6%	104.9%	104.2%	101.7%	103.0%	102.6%
Birthrate	2,614	2,533	2772	2835	2895	3064	3069
Cohort survival rate (birth - Y7)	105.5%	109.0%	101.9%	102.5%	103.7%	98.0%	103.9%

2.13 The five-year rolling cohort survival rate for entry into secondary schools over the last six years can be seen to have declined to its present level of 103%. The decrease in the birth – Y7 cohort survival rate mirrors the in-year changes to primary numbers.

Five years rolling average to	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Average cohort survival rate (Y6 - Y7)	105.8%	106.2%	105.3%	105.1%	104.6%	103.9%
Average cohort survival rate (Y4 - Y7)	105.7%	106.5%	106.0%	105.7%	105.4%	104.3%
Average cohort survival rate (birth - Y7)	104.5%	105.5%	104.9%	104.3%	104.5%	103.1%

2.14 Taking a five-year rolling average of the cohort survival rate from Year 6 to Year 7; from Year 4 to Year 7 and from birth to Year 7 is very similar and so current secondary school place predictions are based on 104% of Year 4 pupils. The additional 1% gives some surplus capacity for in year transfers. This may need to be revised given the downward trend for the last three years.

2.15 The five-year rolling cohort survival rate for entry into primary schools over the last ten years can be seen to have increased to its present level of 102%. This increase mirrors the decrease in the birth rate as more places are available for pupils not resident in Tameside.

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Average Reception intake to birth rate	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Ashton	85%	83%	84%	85%	86%	87%	89%	87%	89%	89%
Audenshaw	151%	147%	153%	152%	150%	158%	157%	145%	143%	146%
Denton	116%	114%	114%	114%	110%	107%	107%	112%	111%	113%
Droylsden	108%	110%	112%	114%	112%	110%	108%	106%	111%	112%
Dukinfield	117%	116%	118%	117%	120%	123%	122%	127%	124%	121%
Hyde and Longdendale	87%	88%	87%	88%	89%	93%	93%	95%	93%	94%
Mossley	88%	87%	87%	86%	84%	84%	85%	84%	84%	86%
Stalybridge	92%	92%	93%	96%	99%	99%	100%	102%	101%	101%
Average	98%	97%	97%	97%	98%	100%	101%	102%	102%	102%

Housing development

- 2.16 Another core factor in planning school places, is the amount of new housing development being planned in the borough. Tameside's Core Strategy is the key compulsory Local Development document. Every Local Development document is built on the principles set out in the Core Strategy, regarding the development and use of land in Tameside's planning area. The Core Strategy is currently being reviewed and it is predicted that an additional 8,000 houses, will be built in the borough, over the next 15 years.
- 2.17 The Council undertakes a housing yield analysis on a regular basis. The analysis looks at ten new development sites and matches new housing development postcodes to new pupil data from the annual school census together with housing information from the Land Registry and Royal Mail to give intelligence on house move statistics and geographical distribution of the population movement into new development postcodes.
- 2.18 The ten development sites have been categorised based upon the type of housing present at each location, with pupil yield statistics generated for each category. The categorisation is as follows:
- Category A: Market housing, mostly semi-detached and terraced properties
 - Category B: Market housing, larger proportion of detached properties
 - Category C: Social housing
- 2.19 The estimation of the number of pupils resulting from new housing developments is a key element of the school place planning process for Tameside Council. Over the next ten years, housing growth is anticipated in each of Tameside's nineteen wards.
- 2.20 Planning for school places will also need to take account of significant areas of proposed new development including sites in Hyde South and Godley Green and work is underway to determine the level of need for additional school places in these areas.
- 2.21 Using all of the above, pupil yield is anticipated to be:
- **Category A: Market housing, mostly semi-detached and terraced properties**
The school census data suggests a primary pupil yield of 0.15–0.36 per new home and a secondary pupil yield of 0.07–0.12 per new home. An estimated 44% of moves to these developments originate from outside Tameside.
 - **Category B: Market housing, larger proportion of detached properties**

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The primary pupil yield averages 0.33 per new home. The secondary pupil yield averages 0.12 per new home. An estimated 45% of moves to these developments originate from outside Tameside.

- **Category C: Social housing**

The school census data suggests a primary pupil yield of 0.41 – 0.60 per new home and a secondary pupil yield of 0.26 – 0.34 per new home. However, it is estimated that only 20% of moves to these new developments originate from outside Tameside.

2.22 As an overall model for calculating pupil yield and developer contributions, the Council uses a pupil yield per new home of 0.23 for primary aged pupils and 0.1 for secondary aged pupils. This is predicted to lead to the following number of additional pupils:

	Housing numbers	Primary places	Secondary places
2020/21	425	98	43
2021/22	415	95	42
2022/23	409	94	41
2023/24	406	93	41
2024/25	239	55	24
2025/26	330	76	33
2026/27	461	106	46
2027/28	720	166	72
2028/29	723	166	72
2029/30	668	154	67
2030/31	394	91	39
TOTAL	5190	1194	519
Source 2020 SHELAA			

2.23 Taking all the above into consideration, projected demand for places is shown in the tables below:

Primary school places

Primary school planning area		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
357001 (Ashton, Droylsden, Mossley)						
Actual intake	Predicted intake	1058	1017	1092	1103	924
Places available		1170	1170	1170	1140	1140
357002 (Audenshaw/ Dukinfield / Stalybridge)						
Actual intake	Predicted intake	795	812	843	873	755
Places available		885	885	855	855	855
357003 (Denton / Hyde/ Longdendale)						
Actual intake	Predicted intake	964	982	959	1120	898
Places available		1090	1085	1085	1085	1085
Total						
Actual intake	Predicted intake	2817	2811	2894	3096	2577
Places available		3145	3140	3110	3080	3080

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Secondary school places

SECONDARY SCHOOL PREDICTIONS 4% COHORT SURVIVAL 2022 - 2031 (JAN 21 PUPIL CENSUS)										
	Sep-22	Sep-23	Sep-24	Sep-25	Sep-26	Sep-27	Sep-28	Sep-29	Sep-30	Sep-31
Primary numbers	3024	3088	2993	2894	2878	2763	2806	2876	3072	2562
Predicted intake	3145	3212	3113	3010	2993	2874	2918	2991	3195	2664
Places available	3224	3239	3214	3184	3154	3154	3154	3154	3154	3155
Balance of places	79	27	101	174	161	280	236	163	-41	491

3. SUPPLY

Primary places supply

- 3.1 The Council plans primary places using three geographical planning areas. The planning areas are based on linked towns, specific geography and travel to learn patterns. The number of primary school places increased substantially through a mixture of permanent and temporary places to take account of increasing pupil numbers. However, as numbers coming into Reception have decreased over recent years, the number of places has reduced to avoid large levels of surplus capacity in some schools and to reduce the number of schools with mixed age classes.
- 3.2 As shown in 2.23 above, taking into account the demand for primary school places combined with a predicted declining birth rate there are sufficient school places for another 10 to 15 years. However, consideration also needs to be given to the increasing levels of surplus capacity in some areas of the borough and in particular to significant surplus predicted for 2024. The significant increase in births in 2019 that will come in to primary schools in 2023 makes reducing surplus capacity difficult as it will be needed for September 2023. Action needs to be taken to reduce admission numbers and therefore surplus capacity for September 2024.
- 3.3 As there is an increasing diversity of types of school in the borough, it is imperative that colleagues in Education begin to work with primary headteachers to identify opportunities to reduce Published Admission Numbers in the borough. Large amounts of surplus capacity will impact on the financial viability of schools and could lead to increased levels of deficit budgets for schools.
- 3.4 This will be kept under review annually through the report to Executive Cabinet.

Secondary places supply

- 3.5 The Council plans secondary school places in a single borough wide planning area. The demographics of the borough are complicated with 16 high schools of which:
- 12 out of 16 are voluntary aided or academies
 - 11 out of the 16 being on the outskirts of the borough leading to high levels of cross local authority area travel to learn patterns
 - three Roman Catholic high schools
 - two single sex boys schools
 - one single sex girls school
 - a free school
- 3.6 All of these factors mean that ensuring sufficient places for secondary schools is challenging.
- 3.7 Due to the rising numbers of pupils in primary schools, the focus of increasing places over the last few years has been on the secondary phase. Tameside has used a mixture of permanent and temporary places in primary schools to accommodate the increase in population. Being proactive in discussions with secondary headteachers has resulted in an

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increased number of secondary places being available and has increased by 16% from its lowest point of 2796 in 2010 to 3239 in September 2021.

- 3.8 The peak of secondary school numbers was reached for September 2021. Whilst there is little surplus capacity in the current Year 7, no pupils was left without a place for September 2021 due to the concerted effort by colleagues and schools to increase Year 7 places.
- 3.9 The increased places that have been determined and /or agreed with our secondary schools means that supply is now able to meet demand. However, similarly to primary schools, there will also be a need to begin to look at removing the temporary surplus places that have been created in the next few years to avoid schools facing financial pressures with falling numbers coming into schools.
- 3.10 This will be kept under review annually through the report to Executive Cabinet.

4. SPECIALIST PROVISION

Outline of expected future growth in EHCPs

- 4.1 Tameside currently maintains 1960 Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). The number of plans maintained has been rising steadily since 2017. The number of EHCPs in Tameside has more than doubled since 2017, when the Local Authority maintained 828 plans. Tameside is now more in line with our statistical neighbours, with EHCPs representing approximately 3.64% of the population.
- 4.2 The recent growth in EHCP's was appropriate and necessary. It has however, placed significant additional strain on specialist providers and resource bases across Tameside. The rapid rate of the growth in EHCPs in Tameside has been such that it was never going to be possible to plan and deliver provision sufficiency at the same rate. This has inevitably created pressure on placements for children with EHCPs, and particularly across the specialist sector, where all schools are currently oversubscribed. This is also true of our specialist resource bases.
- 4.3 Work to establish additional SEND capacity is underway, but recently acquired data demonstrates the ongoing imperative to create additional SEND provision in Tameside, in order to appropriately accommodate our most vulnerable learners in line with future growth.

SEND provision/ sufficiency planning

- 4.4 An over reliance on out of area provision, is undoubtedly a contributing to current budget pressure. It is therefore vital that we take a strategic approach to planning provision driven by need, and invest available capital funding towards the creation of more local places, where necessary and appropriate.
- 4.5 Changing an established pattern of provision is a long-term process rather than a rapid change, given the importance of continuity for children and young people. We are therefore taking a strategic approach, by focusing on key areas of anticipated growth across SEND, and ensuring that appropriate local provision is available for these learners. Parents are a key partner in this work who will continue to be consulted and engaged throughout.
- 4.6 In response to the challenge this growth poses, and in order to ensure that we have appropriate quality provision for Tameside children and young people with SEND, we are now developing a comprehensive SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2021-2031. This strategy builds on key pieces of work (such as the SEND Forward Plan 2019-22) undertaken over the past 3 years and is written with the benefit of newly acquired data and intelligence commissioned from data-science company, Edge Analytics. Edge Analytics is a data science company, specialising in demographic data analysis; who combine demographic intelligence, technology, local relevant data and analytical models to provide forecasting data. This has

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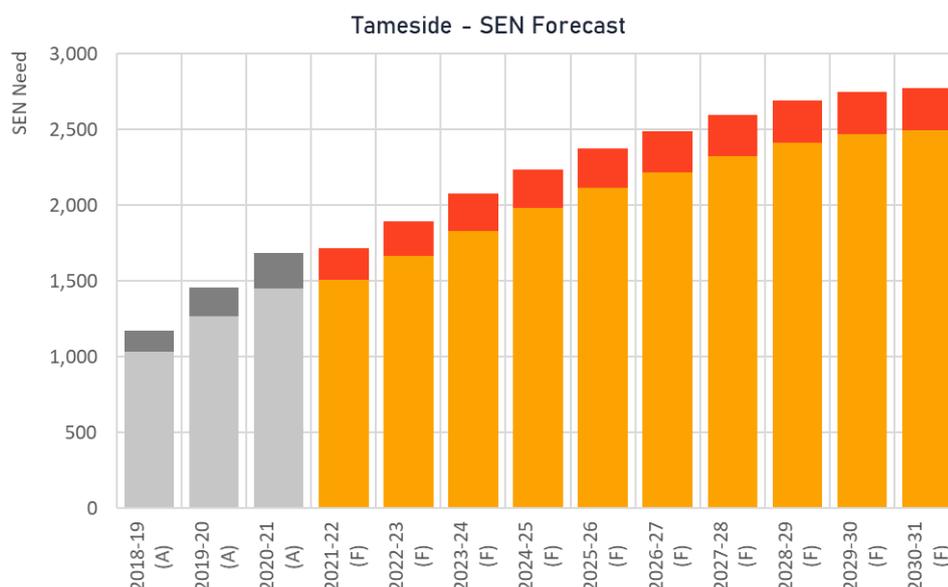
provided us with reliable SEND data, regarding population growth, trends and patterns for the next 10 years.

- 4.7 In order to aid Tameside forecasting, the Edge Analytic SEND model used SEN pupil data for years Reception to Y14 from 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. It used this data, along with housing information (from pupil projections information) and population estimates to project EHCP numbers for Reception to Y14 until 2030-31. Edge Analytics has calibrated its Edge-ucate SEN model for Tameside using the latest available evidence on pupils with special education needs (SEN) and the schools they attend, together with key evidence on demographic change and planned housing developments. Historical evidence on SEN pupils has been used to generate forecasts of future SEN need for Tameside (in total),
- 4.8 Breaking down this data by sector, age-range and areas of need and drilling down into these statistics, allows us to confidently plan SEND sufficiency across Tameside, and highlights priority areas for expanded capacity.

Key areas of growth

- 4.9 Recently acquired intelligence and data around SEND in Tameside provides us with the following growth projections: The data set below shows the anticipated growth across all areas of need and sector between 2018 and 2031, in year groups R -14:

Residential Area:	Tameside	SEN Type/SubType:	- All SEN Types -												
Year Group(s):	Years R-14	School Type:	- All School Types -												
			-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9	+10
			18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31
SEN Need			Actuals				Forecast								
School Location	Tameside	1,032	1,265	1,449	1,507	1,668	1,833	1,981	2,112	2,218	2,325	2,414	2,468	2,494	
	Out of Tameside	139	195	233	209	226	243	255	263	268	269	276	278	277	
Total SEN Need		1,171	1,460	1,682	1,716	1,894	2,076	2,235	2,375	2,487	2,594	2,690	2,746	2,771	



4.10 Based on draft projections for EHCP places from Reception to Y14, we are anticipating unmitigated growth over the next 10 years:

- 1089 new EHCP places are projected over a 10-year period
- 2021-22 and 2022-23 are projected to be the largest 2 years of growth with 179 (21-22) and 181 (22-23) places projected. Growth figures then decrease year on year.
- EHCP places for pupils in years 12-14 are projected to more than double in 10 years
- Years 7-11 are projected to nearly double in 10 years across both specialist and mainstream sectors
- Years R-6 are projected to increase by 29% in 10 years

4.11 The figures given above are drawn from the Edge-analytics analysis. They are lower than we are seeing in real time. At this stage, it is unclear why the projections do not match the higher numbers we are seeing in real time, but it is possible that the currently elevated growth may be attributable to Covid factors.

4.12 The numbers contained in the data sets below, demonstrate that the main area of growth is in secondary school pupils, where the numbers are projected to increase by 82% over a 10-year period, and numbers in mainstream schools will more than double. This growth whilst significant, is not wholly unwelcome and will represent some necessary recalibration of EHCPs across the sectors.

4.13 Currently in Tameside, EHCPs within specialist settings represent 44% of the population, as opposed to 36% nationally. This statistic sets us apart from national, GM and statistical neighbours, where the majority of EHCP students are educated within mainstream settings. The historic under-assessment in Tameside has contributed to this uneven distribution across sectors, but the data going forward indicates that as EHCP % representation come into line with our statistical neighbours, so too will our distribution of EHCPs across sectors. This rapid growth will, undoubtedly, create inclusion challenges within the mainstream sector, and will need to be considered in any future SEND strategic planning.

4.14 Across the specialist sector, whilst not in line with mainstream, we also projecting 60% growth in years R-14, seeing actual numbers rise from 878 in 2021 to 1404 in 2031.

4.15 Growth amongst primary age children is predicted to be 29%, and growth between Y12-14 will increase by 127% (from 255 to 580).

Fastest growing areas of need

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- 4.16 Between now and 2031, by far the fastest growing area of need will be across Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH), where we anticipate growth of 138.9% (additional actual growth of 611) across all age ranges. In mainstream settings, EHCP numbers in SEMH will grow by 130% (additional actual growth 250) across all age ranges. In mainstream, between years R-6 we anticipate growth of 45% (actual 45) and between year 7-14 we are expecting 220% growth (actual additional growth of 205). In specialist settings, numbers in SEMH will grow by 130% (additional actual growth 306) across all age ranges. In years R-6 we anticipate growth of 75% (actual 54) and between year 7-14 we are expecting 156% growth (actual additional growth of 252).
- 4.17 This next fastest growing area of need is communication interaction (CI) difficulties (comprised of both autism and speech, language and communication difficulties), where we anticipate growth of 70.7 % (additional actual growth of 359) across all age ranges. In mainstream settings, EHCP numbers in CI will grow by 87.8% (additional actual growth 203) across all age ranges. In mainstream, between years R-6 we anticipate growth of 64.5% (actual 92) and between year 7-14 we are expecting 125% growth (actual additional growth of 111). In specialist settings, numbers in CI will grow by 54.6% (additional actual growth 146) across all age ranges. In years R-6 we anticipate growth of 37% (actual 44) and between years 7-14 we are expecting 68.9% growth (actual additional growth of 101).
- 4.18 The growth in EHCP numbers represents a significant financial risk to the Local Authority. Over reliance on out of area provision, is undoubtedly a contributing to current budget pressure. It is therefore vital that we take a strategic approach to planning provision driven by need, and invest available capital funding towards the creation of more local places, where necessary and appropriate. Having access to this new data puts us in a stronger position to plan. It is clear that current specialist provision in Tameside will be insufficient to meet this anticipated growth. We must, therefore, take initiative and act quickly to develop additional provision. The SEND Sufficiency contains a range of proposals, which suggests ways that we can meet these needs and mitigate the risk of expensive out of borough placement. Some of these suggestions can be found at the end of this report.
- 4.19 A more comprehensive overview of all sufficiency proposals can be found in the SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2021 - 2031.
- 4.20 Recommendations in the SEND Sufficiency Strategy include:
- An escalation of the resource base development programme. Currently we are aiming to add an additional 8 resource bases across both primary and secondary over the next two years, adding approximately 80 additional specialist places. In order to meet the anticipated demand, it may be deemed necessary to aim instead for an additional 12 resource bases over the next 3 years, with a plan to develop additional post 16 resource base provision, to accommodate up to 30 specialist learners (adding 150 specialist places).
 - Continue with the move to a new Hawthorns building creating a 220 place school (effectively an additional 50 specialist primary places for children with CI needs).
 - Consider options, which would retain the original Hawthorns building as an additional specialist setting for primary-aged learners.
 - Work with Thomas Ashton School to consider its role in supporting the increasing numbers of learners with SEMH difficulties.
 - Explore options for the development of a Specialist Free School.
 - Working in partnership with schools, invest and develop support to mainstream settings to promote ongoing inclusion of their SEND students.
- 4.21 The recommendations will be subject to further governance reports.

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5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 School place planning is a complex process that requires almost constant review to ensure that the Council is able to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient places.
- 5.2 By being proactive and working in partnership with all our schools over a number of years, the Council has been able to meet the demand for places in spite of significant variations in pupil numbers.
- 5.3 After the sustained period of growth, data indicates the need to consider reducing levels of surplus that are predicted to increase in primary and secondary schools over the next few years.
- 5.4 There is a need to engage in dialogue with primary school leaders to begin to consider options to reduce projected levels of surplus capacity. Whilst levels of surplus in secondary schools are not expected to increase for a number of years, dialogue will begin to ensure that temporary places added to cope with the increase in pupils over recent year are removed first.
- 5.5 Whilst there are currently sufficient places to meet expected demand, the school place planning process must continue to be dynamic particularly in view of significant housing development that is predicted within the borough and the impact that will have on demand and travel to learn patterns.